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PATENT

Please cancel claims 147-151.

REMARKS

Claims 115, 118-126, 138, 139, 141, and 144 are pending. Claims 107, 111-113, 116, 127, 129-132, 142, 143, 145, and 147-151 have been canceled without prejudice. Declaration of interferences with each of U.S. Patent Nos. 5,878,193; 5,855,583; 5,815,640; and 5,907,664 are respectfully requested.

Examiner Interviews

An Interview Summary is filed with this Amendment as a separate document.

Cancellation of Claims and Remaining Issues to be Resolved

Applicant notes that claims are being canceled from this application solely to expedite declaration of interferences with the patents listed above. These claims are being canceled without prejudice against raising the issues presented by these claims before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, and without prejudice against pursuing patent protection for this subject matter in one or more subsequently filed applications. More specifically, Applicant has canceled these claims in light of the Examiner's suggestion that maintaining these claims in the present application will add significantly to the likely delay before one or more of the requested interferences can be declared.

Regarding claims 118 and 123-126, Applicant understands that the Examiner has rejected these claims as allegedly being unpatentable over the cited art. As these claims have generally been copied from the '583 patent, Applicant is retaining these claims for the interference proceeding. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to review and, if appropriate, to argue the substantive allowability of these claims once Applicant's priority to these inventions has been established in an interference proceeding.

Regarding claims 138, 139, and 141, as mentioned above, Applicant understands that these claims remain rejected solely under 35 U.S.C. §135(b). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reasons previously detailed in the Amendment filed on May 11, 2000 for this case.

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PATENT
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FOR DISCUSSION ONLY
DO NOT ENTER

Related Filings

On June 21, 2000, Applicant filed a continuation of the present application with claims which were previously pending in a related case. This continuation was filed (without payment of the application fee) to establish Applicant's rights to provoke an interference with U.S. Patent No. 5,524,180, which issued to Wang, et al. on June 4, 1996.

On or about the date of filing of this Supplemental Amendment, Applicant intends to file one or more further continuations with at least some of the claims recently canceled from the present application, including claims copied from (or substantially corresponding to) U.S. Patent Nos. 5,762,458; 5,878,193; 5,855,583; 5,815,640; and/or 5,907,664.

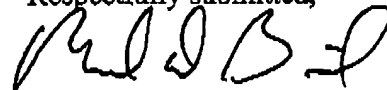
CONCLUSION

In light of the above, agreement has been reached that Applicant is entitled to an interference with U.S. Patent Nos. 5,878,193; 5,855,583; and 5,907,664. Furthermore, if and when the rejections to claims 138, 139, and 141 under 35 U.S.C. §135(b) are removed, Applicant will be entitled to an interference with U.S. Patent No. 5,815,640.

As Applicant initially requested the first of these interference proceedings over one year ago (on May 28, 1999), and as such a request should be examined with "special dispatch" under 37 C.F.R. §1.607(b), the declaration of an interference with each of these four patents at the earliest possible date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-617-9105.

Respectfully submitted,



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